

REMARKS

Claims 16-23 are pending in the application and stand rejected. Claims 17 and 21 are hereby canceled by this Amendment without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claim Rejections -35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 16-18 and 20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Balderrama et al. (US 5,806,071). Applicant traverses this rejection as follows.

Claim 16 recites, *inter alia*, a displayed key group attribute information storage unit, that stores, as displayed key group attribute information, the key group master information of the first, the second, and the third key groups that are being displayed on the display of the touch panel;

wherein the display switching unit that, in response to receiving the link destination attribute and the link destination number from the operation key attribute obtaining unit, reads out from the key group master memory unit, the key group master information designated according to a received link destination attribute and a received link destination number in the displayed key group attribute information that corresponds to the pressed first switching key, and replaces only the second key group with the third key group corresponding to the key group master information designated according to the link destination attribute and the link destination number for display on the touch panel, and updates the displayed key group attribute information by replacing only the key group master information of the second key group with the third key group.

In the rejection, the Examiner contends the embodiments of FIGS. 3 and 4, and the related descriptions in column 7, lines 1-25 and column 11, lines 13-35, correspond to the recited “displayed key group attribute information storage unit.”

However, nowhere does Balderrama disclose that these portions are updated by a display switching unit. Moreover, nowhere does Balderama disclose that only the key group master information of the second key group with the third key group in response to a first pressed switching key. Rather, Balderrama merely discloses template data records as exemplified by the structure presented in Table A. *See* col. 6, line 64 through col. 7, line 24. This table is incorporated into a template presentation, i.e., items of certain tracks (Table A) are utilized in certain template displays 150, 160, 170, etc. Nowhere does Balderama disclose that any portion of Table A is updated by a display switching unit to replace only the key group master information of the second key group with the third key group as required by claim 16. Moreover, nowhere is it disclosed that Tables B and C are updated in any such manner. Accordingly, Balderama fails to disclose a display switching unit meeting all the features recited in claim 16.

Thus, Applicant submits claim 16 is allowable for at least this reason. Additionally, because claim 20 recites a similar feature, Applicant submits claim 20 is allowable for the same reasons set forth above. Finally, Applicant submits claims 18 and 22 are allowable, at least by virtue of their dependency.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 19 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Balderrama in view of Moderi (US 5,510,979).


In response, Applicant submits that because Moderi, either taken alone or in combination with Balderrama, fails to compensate for the above noted deficiencies of Balderrama as applied to claims 16 and 20, claims 19 and 23 are allowable, at least by virtue of their dependencies.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



David P. Emery
Registration No. 55,154

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: May 14, 2009